

like to live - this Assembly has made an honest attempt to come to grips in a constructive and responsible manner with some of the major problems of our day.

I should like also to take this opportunity of paying a very well deserved tribute to the Secretariat and to its distinguished leader, the Secretary-General. The continuity and effectiveness of the General Assembly's work must depend very largely on the integrity and efficiency of our international civil servants. The Secretariat have once again served us loyally and well, and I should like to express the Assembly's appreciation for their extremely hard work and devotion to what is often a thankless and difficult task; and to what is often a misunderstood ideal, that of international service.

The work of the seventh session is not completed, and we shall be carrying on in the New Year. During these recent weeks I have received, as President of the General Assembly, a great many letters from men and women everywhere which deal with matters before our Organization. They reflect the deep interest and anxious concern with which the whole world follows the deliberations of the United Nations, and the hopes and prayers for the achievement of the purposes to which this Organization is dedicated. They reflect too the conviction that in the twentieth century we cannot dispense with the United Nations, which remains - in spite of everything - our best hope for the establishment of peace and orderly progress.

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